

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-6 are cancelled and new claims 7-14 are added.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-6 (canceled).

7. (new) A method of integrating a fused fiber collimated coupler into an optical unit comprising:

- a) inserting the fused fiber collimated coupler into a coupler holder,
- b) aligning the fused fiber collimated coupler with a fiber bundle array so that the individual fibers of the fiber bundle array are aligned with individual fused fiber optical elements of the fused fiber collimated coupler, and
- c) permanently affixing the fused fiber collimated coupler to the coupler holder.

8. (new) The method of claim 7 further comprising:

affixing the fused fiber collimated coupler to the coupler holder by means of an epoxy.

9. (new) The method of claim 7 wherein the aligning the fused fiber collimated coupler with the fiber bundle array comprises:

shining light through a far end of the fiber bundle array so that light emits from a connector end of the fiber bundle array.

10. (new) The process of claim 9 wherein the shining comprises applying one of: laser emitted light, LED generated light, or white light.

11. (new) The process of claim 7 further comprising:
aligning the optical unit so that the individual fused fiber optical elements of the collimated coupler are aligned with one or more optical devices of a chip assembly.

12. (new) The process of claim 11 further comprising:
placing the optical unit in close proximity to the chip assembly.

13. (new) The process of claim 12 further comprising:
affixing the optical unit to the chip assembly.

14. (new) The process of claim 13 further comprising:
affixing the optical unit to the chip assembly by at least one of gluing, screwing or ultrasonic welding.